

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 MC-02 OMB-01 /086 W

----- 103343

R 290817Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 13

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2967

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR MILI MY

SUBJ: GENERAL SANI TO BECOME NEW MALAYSIAN ARMY

CHIEF OF STAFF

1. MALAY-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER "UTUSAN MALAYSIAN" (UM) MAY 29 SURFACED REPORT THAT MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHERLANDS MAJOR GENERAL DATUK MOHD. SANI GHAFFAR (SURNAME SANI) WILL REPLACE GENERAL TAN SRI UNGKU NAZARUDDIN AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF UPON THE LATTER'S RETIREMENT FROM THAT POSITION IN NEAR FUTURE. UM REPORT GOES ON TO SAY THAT NAZARUDDIN WILL REPLACE SANI AS AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHERLANDS, AND JOB SWITCH IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER THIS YEAR.

2. SANI IS FORTY-NINE, WAS PROMOTED TO MAJOR GENERAL IN 1969, AND HAS SERVED AS AMBASSADOR SINCE 1973. (SEE KL A-150, 8/23/73.)

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3. COMMENT: SANI WHO HAS LONG BEEN RUMORED TO BE IN LINE

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF JOB IS BEING BROUGHT BACK IN HOPES
THAT HE CAN CLEAN UP SOME OF THE FACTIONALISM AND CORRUPTION
WHICH HAVE PLAGUEDTHE UPPER LEVELS OF THE
MALAYSIAN ARMY. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF FACT THAT UNTIL
1973 HE WAS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF HE CAN HARDLY BE CONSIDERED A
"NEW BROOM".
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

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